

From: Big Endian
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 6:05am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

This settlement is merely a slap on the wrist and is no more than a reissue of the settlement for the previous case over IE integration into Windows 98. Microsoft needs to be limited in such a way that they cannot use their monopoly in any one market to gain monopoly power in a second market. The markets involved include but are not limited to: Operating Systems, Productivity (MS Office), Internet (IE, MSN, MSN Messenger). These are separate, distinct markets that Microsoft has employed its monopoly power in one to leverage the other. Their monopoly with DOS allowed them to make Windows 3.1 not work with Digital Research DOS (DrDOS). Their monopoly with Office has allowed them to force users to upgrade their OS and hardware in order to be compatible with files from users of a newer version of the software. Microsoft believes it is above the law and routinely abuses the legal system to stifle competition (see Microsoft vs Windows.com)

Daniel Mayfield

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"Fragile. Do not drop." -- Posted on a Boeing 757.